Message Text

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O 251900Z APR 75 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY MONROVIA IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 096159

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR, LI

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: PAN AM PROBLEMS

REF: MONROVIA 2199; MONROVIA 2241

1. IN VIEW OF DIFFICULTIES BEING ENCOUNTERED BY PAN AMERICAN AND THE REFUSAL OF THE LIBERIAN MINISTER OF COMMERCE, INDUSTRY AND TOURISM WILLIAM DENNIS JR., TO AUTHORIZE THE INCREASES IN CARGO AND PASSENGER FLIGHTS WHICH PAN AM PROPOSES TO INAUGURATE MAY 1, DEPT BELIEVES IT ADVISABLE TO EXPRESS TO GOL OFFICIALS OUR INTEREST IN OBTAINING AN EARLY AND AMICABLE RESOLUTION OF THESE ISSUES. AN AIDE MEMOIRE TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE IN ADVANCE OF VISIT BY PAN AM SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FLANEGIN TO GOL OFFICIALS MAY ASSIST IN REACHING SOLUTION SATISFACTORY TO BOTH SIDES. FOLLOWING SUGGESTED TEXT MAY BE HELPFUL.

2. AIDE MEMOIRE.

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IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT OFFICIALS OF PAN AMERICAN WORLD

AIRWAYS AND AIR LIBERIA ARE PRESENTLY ENGAGED IN TALKS
AIMED AT WORKING OUT APPROPRIATE DETAILS OF A COOPERATIVE

ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO CARRIERS. SEVERAL ISSUES REMAIN TO BE RESOLVED AND AT SUCH TIME AS AN AGREEMENT IS REACHED IT WILL, IN ACCORDANCE WITH REQUIRED PROCEDURES BE SUBMITTED TO THE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF THE GOVERNMENTS FOR THEIR REVIEW. IN THE MEANWHILE PAN AMERICAN HAS RECEIVED AN ORDER WHICH WOULD DISAPPROVE SCHEDULES THE AIRLINE PROPOSES TO INTRODUCE AS OF MAY 1, 1975. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THESE SCHEDULES INCLUDE PROVISION FOR AN ADDITIONAL WEEKLY ROUND-TRIP CARGO FREQUENCY AND AN ADDITIONAL ROUND-TRIP PASSENGER FREQUENCY PER WEEK.

IN VIEW OF THE LONG HISTORY OF COOPERATION BETWEEN PAN AMERICAN AND THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA WHICH WE HOPE HAS BEEN FAVORABLY VIEWED AS A CONTRIBUTION TO LIBERIA'S DEVELOPMENTAL ACHIEVEMENTS, AND TO INSURE THAT THERE CONTINUES TO BE AN APPROPRIATE BASIS ON WHICH TO DEVELOP FURTHER COOPERATIVE ARRANGEMENTS SUCH AS THE ONES PRESENTLY UNDER DISCUSSION BETWEEN AIR LIBERIA AND PAN AMERICAN, IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF FAVORABLE ACTION COULD BE TAKEN ON PAN AMERICAN'S SCHEDULES TO BE EFFECTIVE MAY 1. KISSINGER

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